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Commission on Sustainable Development

Report on the thirteenth session (30 April 2004 and 11-22 April 2005)

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolutions recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Council

1. The Commission on Sustainable Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Support to the Bureau in preparing for future sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development*

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development adopted at its sixth, seventh and eighth sessions on matters related to the intersessional work of the Commission,

Recalling its resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003 concerning the mandate and new organization and programme of work for the Commission,

1. *Decides* that, in order for members of the Bureau to carry out their functions effectively, consideration should be given to providing financial support consisting of travel and daily subsistence to members of the Bureau from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, through designated extrabudgetary contributions to the Trust Fund to Support the Work of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

2. *Also decides* that financial support to members of the Bureau from developing countries and countries with economies in transition should cover participation in one of the meetings of the Bureau to be held outside New York and the respective regional implementation meeting and other relevant meetings in the region;

3. *Invites* donor Governments, institutions and other organizations to contribute to the Trust Fund.

Draft resolution II
Support for the travel of representatives from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to future sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 59/227 of 22 December 2004, in which the Assembly encouraged, inter alia, a broad-based participation of government representatives and experts in the meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

Emphasizing that such broad participation of representatives and experts from developing countries is key to a balanced review of thematic clusters of issues of the implementation cycles,

1. *Invites* donor Governments, institutions and other organizations to provide contributions to the Trust Fund to Support the Work of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

2. *Recommends* that the General Assembly decide that support to participants from developing countries, with priority given to the least developed countries, as well as from countries with economies in transition, may be provided from the Trust Fund for travel from funds designated for that purpose.

B. Draft decisions recommended by the Commission for adoption by the Council

2. The Commission on Sustainable Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
Term of the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development*

The Economic and Social Council recalling its decision 2004/214 of 13 February 2004, in which it decided to give further consideration to the term of the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development for future sessions after the completion of the first two-year cycle, decides that the current term of the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development, should continue on the basis of a one-year term for its next cycle, comprising the fourteenth and fifteenth sessions of the Commission.

Draft decision II
Dates of the meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development during its 2006/2007 cycle*

The Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 59/265 of 23 December 2004, in which the Assembly decided, inter alia, that there should be an intervening period of at least two weeks between the closing of the sessions of relevant intergovernmental bodies and the beginning of the session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, decides that the fourteenth session of the Commission (review session) should take place from 1 to 12 May 2006, the intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the fifteenth session of the Commission should take place from 26 February to 2 March 2007 and the fifteenth session of the Commission (policy session) should take place from 30 April to 11 May 2007.

* For the discussion, see chap. IV.

Draft decision III
Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its thirteenth session and provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its thirteenth session and approves the provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Commission set out below.

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2006/2007 (review session):
   (a) Energy for sustainable development;
   (b) Industrial development;
   (c) Air pollution/atmosphere;
   (d) Climate change.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on energy for development

   Report of the Secretary-General on industrial development

   Report of the Secretary-General on air pollution/atmosphere

   Report of the Secretary-General on climate change

   Report of the Secretary-General on the overall progress in the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation
4. Other matters.
5. Provisional agenda for the fifteenth session of the Commission.
6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fourteenth session.

C. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

3. The attention of the Council is drawn to the following resolution adopted by the Commission:

Resolution 13/1
Policy options and practical measures to expedite implementation in water, sanitation and human settlements*

The Commission on Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21[2] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5]

Reaffirming also the Habitat Agenda,[6] the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Doha from 9 to 14 November 2001,[7] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[8] and the Hyogo Declaration[9] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2010: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[10] adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005,

Recalling the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[11]

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

1 *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

2 Ibid, annex II.

3 General Assembly resolution S-19/2, annex.

4 *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

5 Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

6 *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

7 A/C.2/56/7, annex.

8 *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

9 See A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

10 Ibid., resolution 2.

11 *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Noting the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)[12] initiative, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, Ownership, Harmonization, Alignment, Results and Mutual Accountability, adopted at the High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness: Joint Progress Towards Aid Effectiveness, held in Paris from 28 February to 2 March 2005,[13] the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment,[14] and the Sirte Declaration on the Challenges of Implementing Integrated and Sustainable Development on Agriculture and Water in Africa,[15]

Reaffirming the commitment to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[16] and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences held and international agreements reached since 1992, and recognizing the continuing urgent need for actions to achieve these goals,

Reaffirming also the continuing need for integrating economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reenforcing pillars of sustainable development, and that poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development,

Recalling, in particular, paragraph 6 of the Millennium Declaration and paragraph 2 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recognizing the special needs of Africa, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003 on the future programme, organization and methods of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

Noting the outcomes of the twelfth session of the Commission and the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the thirteenth session of the Commission, in particular the identification of policy options and practical measures on the three thematic areas of water, sanitation and human settlements as contained in the Chairman's summary of the interactive discussions held at the meeting,[17]

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 58/291 of 6 May 2004 and 59/227 of 22 December 2004 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2004/44 of 22 July 2004 and 2004/63 of 23 July 2004, in which the Commission was requested, without prejudice to the decisions adopted at its eleventh session, to contribute through the

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[12] A/57/304, annex.

[13] Available from www1.worldbank.org/harmonization/Paris/FINALPARISDECLARATION.pdf (accessed 24 June 2005).

[14] *Ecosystems and human well-being: Biodiversity Synthesis*: a report of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (Washington, D.C., World Resources Institute, 2005).

[15] Ex/Assembly/AU/Decl. 1 (II), adopted on 27 February 2004 by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, at the second extraordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union, held in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 27 and 28 February 2004, available from http://www.africa-union.org/Official_documents/Decisions_Declarations/Sirte/Sirte%20Declaration%20on%20Agriculture%20%Water%20with%20corrections.pdf (accessed 26 June 2005).

[16] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[17] E/CN.17/2005/6, sect. II.

Council to the High-level Plenary Meeting of the Assembly in 2005, in accordance with the modalities set out by the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session,

1. *Decides* to submit the policy decisions of the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development to the Economic and Social Council as a significant contribution to the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, and recommends to the Council their transmittal to the high-level plenary meeting;

2. *Emphasizes* that:

(a) A substantial increase of resources from all sources, including domestic resources, official development assistance and other resources, will be required if developing countries are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and targets, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[16] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation");[5]

(b) The goals of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, are complementary and an integrated approach is necessary;

(c) Investments in water, sanitation and human settlements contribute to economic growth, sustainable development, better health and reduced poverty, and that the achievement of water, sanitation and human settlements goals is critical to the implementation of the three pillars of sustainable development and the achievement of all the internationally agreed development goals;

(d) The policy options and practical measures for expediting implementation relating to water, sanitation and human settlements should be nationally owned and integrated into poverty reduction strategies and/or national sustainable development strategies, whose implementation should begin by 2005, or national development plans;

(e) Governments have the primary role in promoting improved access to safe drinking water, basic sanitation, sustainable and secure tenure, and adequate shelter, through improved governance at all levels and appropriate enabling environments and regulatory frameworks, adopting a pro-poor approach and including the active involvement of all stakeholders;

(f) Efforts by Governments to achieve the agreed goals and targets on water, sanitation and human settlements should be supported by the international community through a conducive international policy environment, including good governance at the international level, a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system as well as meaningful trade liberalization, including through urgent completion of the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations with the realization of its development dimension, mobilization and transfer of financial resources, debt relief, including debt cancellation, where appropriate, public-public and public-private partnerships, technical cooperation and capacity-building, and technology transfer consistent with international obligations including agreements acceded to;

(g) Water, sanitation and human settlements are interlinked and complementary and should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental aspects, related sectoral policies and

cross-cutting issues as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission, as well as national, subregional and regional specificities, circumstances and legal frameworks, and bearing in mind that no one size fits all;

(h) All donors should coordinate, in consultation with recipient countries, their country-level support for water, sanitation and human settlements, for example, by using a lead donor approach if mutually agreed, to increase the effectiveness of donor assistance;

(i) Education for sustainable development and access to a reliable system of economic, social and environmental information on water, sanitation and human settlements enable informed decision-making and accountability;

(j) The role of the regional commissions and other regional and subregional institutions and bodies as defined in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation in pursuing the implementation of Agenda 21,[2] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, should be recognized;

3. *Decides* to call upon Governments, and the United Nations system, within existing resources and through voluntary contributions, and invites international financial institutions and other international organizations, as appropriate, working in partnership with major groups and other stakeholders, to take action as follows:

A. Water

Access to basic water services

(a) Sustain and accelerate progress towards the water access goal, supported by increased resources from all sources, including official development assistance, in response to countries' needs, with a focus on the following actions:

(i) Prioritizing water in national development plans and facilitating access to water for all;

(ii) Strengthening capacities of national and local authorities in resource allocation and management, quality control, development and implementation of water supply projects, and monitoring of service provision;

(iii) Promoting support for water infrastructure planning and development;

(iv) Involving all stakeholders, particularly women and youth, in the planning and management of water services and, as appropriate, decision-making processes;

(v) Instituting economic incentives to encourage the participation of small-scale water service providers;

(vi) Employing the full range of policy instruments, including regulation, voluntary measures, market and information-based tools and cost recovery of water services, that contribute to the sustainability of services provision, without cost-recovery objectives, becoming a barrier to access to safe water by poor people;

(vii) Targeting subsidies for the poor, including connection costs;

(b) Develop and strengthen human and institutional capacities for effective water management and service delivery, through:

(i) Building capacities of local communities in operation and maintenance of water systems, and training educators, managers and technicians in different aspects of water management;

(ii) Tapping local and indigenous knowledge in project development and implementation;

(iii) Promoting and strengthening commercial capacities of local suppliers;

(iv) Improving monitoring and analytical capabilities of water information management agencies;

(c) Develop and transfer low-cost technologies for safe water supply and treatment, in accordance with countries' needs, with a focus on the following:

(i) Promoting access to appropriate low-cost and environmentally sustainable water use and supply technologies through North-South and South-South cooperation and partnerships;

(ii) Developing capacities in the area of water desalination, treatment of contaminants, rainwater harvesting and water efficiency through technology transfer and sharing of best practices;

(iii) Investing in research and development projects;

(iv) Addressing the special needs of countries with arid and semi-arid areas due to water scarcity;

Integrated water resources management

(d) Recognizing that the 2005 target on integrated water resources management may not be met by all countries, accelerate the provision of technical and financial assistance to countries in preparing nationally owned integrated water resources management and water-efficiency plans tailored to country-specific needs, paying particular attention to economic development, social and environmental needs, supporting implementation through learning-by-doing, directed, inter alia, towards the following:

(i) Improving water governance through strengthening of institutional and regulatory reforms, capacity development and innovation;

(ii) Providing technical and management support to local authorities and community-based organizations, taking into account research, traditional knowledge and best practices, to improve water resources management within national policy frameworks;

(iii) Providing additional resources, as appropriate, for regional and subregional initiatives, such as the African Water Facility;

(iv) Encouraging effective coordination among all stakeholders in water-related decision-making;

(v) Enhancing the sustainability of ecosystems that provide essential resources and services for human well-being and economic activity in water-related decision-making;

(vi) Facilitating information exchange and knowledge-sharing, including indigenous and local knowledge;

(vii) Strengthening the prevention of pollution resulting from wastewater, solid waste, and industrial and agricultural activities;

(viii) Developing preventive and preparedness measures, as well as risk mitigation and disaster reduction, including early warning systems;

(ix) Protecting and rehabilitating catchment areas for regulating water flows and improving water quality, taking into account the critical role of ecosystems;

(x) Raising awareness of the importance of water use efficiency and conservation;

(xi) Involving all stakeholders, including women, youth and local communities, in integrated planning and management of land and water resources;

(xii) Encouraging, where appropriate and within their mandates, the use of multilateral environmental agreements to leverage additional resources for integrated water resources management;

(xiii) Promoting higher priority and greater action on water quality;

(e) Support African initiatives in the area of water, within the framework of the African Ministerial Conference on Water, with particular reference to basin-wide initiatives in Africa;

(f) Enhance cooperation among riparian States through relevant arrangements and/or mechanisms with the consent of the States concerned, taking into account the interests of the riparian States;

(g) Develop and strengthen national monitoring systems on the quantity, quality and use of surface- and groundwater resources at national and local levels, and for measuring progress towards internationally agreed goals and targets, as appropriate, as well as for assessing the impact of climate variability and change on water resources, through the following actions:

(i) Establishing and managing water information systems;

(ii) Installing networks for monitoring water resources and quality;

(iii) Standardizing methodologies and developing monitoring indicators;

(iv) Transferring monitoring technologies adaptable to local conditions;

(v) Disseminating information to relevant stakeholders;

(h) Support more effective water demand and water resource management across all sectors, especially in the agricultural sector, by:

(i) Using efficient irrigation and rainwater harvesting technologies;

(ii) Implementing irrigation projects with a focus on the poor, particularly in Africa;

(iii) Training farmers and water user associations in efficient water use and sustainable agricultural land management;

(iv) Promoting the use of wastewater for certain irrigation purposes, subject to health and environmental standards;

(v) Increasing the efficiency and, where appropriate, the use of rain-fed agriculture;

B. Sanitation

(i) Provide adequate sanitation, recognizing the interlinkages among water, sanitation, hygiene and health, including water-borne disease vectors, as well as the positive impacts of access to sanitation on poverty reduction, privacy, dignity, security and education;

Access to basic sanitation

(j) Sustain and accelerate progress towards the sanitation target of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, supported by increased resources from all sources, including official development assistance, in response to countries' needs, with a focus on the following actions:

(i) Establishing an institutional home for sanitation, prioritizing sanitation in national development plans, and incorporating sanitation in integrated water resources management plans;

(ii) Allocating a specific and adequately resourced budget for sanitation;

(iii) Prioritizing investments directed towards areas of greatest need and greatest impact, notably in schools, workplaces and health centres;

(iv) Employing cost recovery, where appropriate, to contribute to the sustainability of services, with targeted subsidies for the poor;

(v) Instituting economic incentives to encourage the participation of small-scale sanitation and hygiene service providers;

(vi) Conducting assessment of the health impacts of the lack of sanitation at community level;

(vii) Supporting existing regional and interregional initiatives such as the Global Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for all (WASH) programme for water and sanitation;

(viii) Promoting and supporting on-site sanitation infrastructure, especially in rural areas;

(ix) Supporting the provision and maintenance of sanitation services to refugees and refugee host countries;

(k) Ensure effective capacity for building, operating and maintaining sanitation and sewerage systems, including by:

(i) Providing managerial and technical training to public utilities, community-based organizations and small-scale providers for development, operation and maintenance of sanitation systems;

(ii) Strengthening the role of women in planning, decision-making and management of sanitation systems;

(iii) Tapping local and indigenous knowledge in project development and implementation;

(iv) Promoting and strengthening commercial capacities of local suppliers in establishing sustainable sanitation delivery models;

(v) Improving monitoring and analytical capabilities of information management agencies;

(l) Ensure access to culturally appropriate, low-cost and environmentally sound sanitation technologies, including by:

(i) Promoting research, development and dissemination of information on low-cost sanitation options;

(ii) Investing in research and development projects including applications of indigenous technologies and ecological sanitation;

(iii) Providing technology transfer for sanitation, wastewater treatment, reuse and residuals management;

(iv) Strengthening North-South and South-South cooperation in developing and applying sanitation technology;

Sanitation and hygiene education

(m) Support countries in promoting sanitation and hygiene education and awareness-raising, focusing on the following measures:

(i) Promoting gender-sensitive sanitation and hygiene education and awareness, including through social marketing and public information campaigns such as Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for all (WASH), and improving understanding of the linkages among sanitation, hygiene and health;

(ii) With an emphasis on children and youth, incorporating gender-sensitive hygiene education in school curricula and ensuring the provision of separate sanitation facilities for boys and girls in all schools;

(iii) Promoting the involvement of women, youth and community groups in sanitation and hygiene education programmes;

Wastewater collection, treatment and reuse

(n) Expand and improve wastewater treatment and reuse, with a focus on the following:

(i) Financial and technical assistance to national and local authorities in deploying cost-effective and environmentally sound sewerage and wastewater treatment systems, including decentralized urban systems;

(ii) Meeting operation and maintenance costs through an appropriate mix of measures including user charges, wastewater reuse and budgetary allocations;

(iii) Establishing sustainable business models and financing mechanisms linked to capital markets such as revolving funds for sewerage services;

(iv) Education and training in building, operating and maintaining wastewater collection and treatment systems;

(v) Research, development and dissemination of information on low-cost and efficient wastewater treatment technologies, including on water quality and reuse;

(vi) Dissemination of information and guidelines on surface- and groundwater quality and the safe reuse of treated wastewater;

(vii) Establishing regional project development facilities to provide seed capital, training and technical assistance;

(o) Support regional and subregional arrangements, to protect water resources from pollution, addressing the specific needs of arid, semi-arid and coastal countries;

C. Human settlements

(p) Provide an enabling policy and regulatory environment and mobilize the requisite means of implementation, including through regional cooperation and international support, including increased financial resources to promote sustainable human settlements development in both urban and rural areas, in accordance with national priorities;

Integrated planning and management

(q) Support integrated planning and management of human settlements, incorporating land use, housing, water supply and sanitation, waste management, energy, employment and income-generation, education and health-care services, transportation and other infrastructure, giving due consideration to urbanization trends, in particular, to the needs of the urban poor in implementing the Millennium Declaration, with a view to preventing new slum formation, by:

(i) Integrating urban-rural linkages into national planning processes and promoting further research to inform policies and measures to manage urbanization;

(ii) Integrating slum upgrading and slum prevention into national development planning, taking into account social, economic, cultural and environmental aspects;

(iii) Including natural disaster risk mitigation, early warning, preparedness and post-disaster considerations and related capacity-building measures in human settlements planning and development, including at regional level;

(iv) Establishing and strengthening regional and subregional initiatives for human settlements planning and development, and supporting such initiatives through capacity-building and resource mobilization;

(v) Strengthening capacities for waste management, including through implementation of the relevant international instruments including the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal;[18]

[18] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1673, No. 28911.

(vi) Promoting increased participation of all stakeholders, in particular women and youth as well as slum-dwellers and their organizations, in planning, implementation and, where appropriate, decision-making processes;

(vii) Decentralizing responsibilities to local authorities depending on national circumstances, specificities and legal frameworks accompanied by capacity-building and corresponding transfer of resources;

(viii) Promoting international networking for information exchange among local authorities and stakeholders, including for the implementation of Local Agendas 21;

(ix) Resolving to take further effective measures to remove obstacles to the full realization of the rights of the peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation, which are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and must be combated and eliminated;

Access to affordable land, housing and basic services

(r) Assist in providing access for the poor, in urban and rural areas, to decent and affordable housing and basic services, in accordance with the Habitat Agenda,[6] through:

(i) Achieving, by 2020, a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers, as proposed in the "Cities without slums" initiative;

(ii) Designing pro-poor policies, with a focus on tenure security and access to affordable serviced land;

(iii) Promoting stable and transparent land markets and strengthening land administration;

(iv) Targeting subsidies to poor people for housing and basic services, including the consideration of loans and subsidies that reflect the payment capabilities of the poor for housing and basic services;

(v) Improving equal access to basic services and land tenure, with particular attention to the equal rights of women to own and inherit land and other property and to access credit markets;

(vi) Promoting public-private partnerships for financing and developing infrastructure and affordable housing;

(vii) Strengthening enforcement capacity for building codes and laws in the housing sector;

(viii) Promoting research, production and use of local construction technologies and building materials and integrating traditional knowledge and practices, as appropriate, in national housing policies;

(ix) Facilitating transfer of technology for low-cost housing construction using local materials;

(x) Strengthening the capital base and building the financial capacity of community savings and microfinance institutions serving the poor;

(xi) Encouraging donors and international financial institutions to provide innovative financing for low-income housing and community improvement,

including through loan guarantees, seed capital for revolving funds, and facilitating access of local authorities to capital markets;

(xii) Providing increased financial assistance, including by multilateral and regional development banks, for slum prevention and upgrading;

(xiii) Providing support to refugee host countries in developing and rehabilitating infrastructure and environment, including affected ecosystems and habitats;

Employment and enterprise promotion

(s) Support national measures encouraging private sector investment, entrepreneurship and job-creation, including the following:

(i) Incorporating employment and enterprise development policies into national planning and slum prevention and upgrading programmes;

(ii) Facilitating the development of the microfinance sector;

(iii) Enhancing capacity in managerial, environmental and technical skills of small and medium-sized enterprises, including in the informal economy, to improve their access to finance and marketing opportunities;

(iv) Providing education and vocational training to women and youth, particularly the urban poor, to improve their access to decent jobs, combining provision of financial services with mentoring, business training and counselling;

D. Interlinkages and cross-cutting issues

(t) Address water, sanitation and human settlements in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental aspects, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission, as well as national, subregional and regional specificities, circumstances and legal frameworks, with particular attention given to the requirements of women, youth and workers, through a range of measures and approaches such as:

(i) Interlinking measures on water, sanitation and human settlements to increase their synergy, efficiency and impact by developing integrated and inclusive policies of planning and management in water, sanitation and human settlements;

(ii) Improving national coordination efforts to address water and sanitation, to manage the competing demands for water, including those for agricultural production;

(iii) Enhancing inter-ministerial and cross-sectoral coordination and planning mechanisms, as well as mechanisms for coordination between different levels of administration;

(iv) In accordance with paragraph 14 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns in all countries, with developed countries taking the lead and with all countries

benefiting from the process, including through the Marrakech Process, in the areas of water, sanitation and human settlements;

(u) Devise water, sanitation and human settlements policies and actions taking account of the need to address the impacts of rapid urbanization, desertification, climate change and climate variability and natural disasters, including by:

(i) Assessing the impact of natural disasters, climate change and climate variability on water resources, water supply, sanitation and human settlements;

(ii) Supporting the implementation of monitoring and early warning systems and of relevant mitigation and adaptation technologies;

(v) Noting that the water and sanitation targets are to halve the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation by 2015, and that the target for slum-dwellers is to improve the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, support countries, including through the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), in their ability to provide data and information on existing slums with a projection on new slum formation by 2020, and thereafter to adopt and implement plans to achieve these targets, linked to poverty reduction strategies, national sustainable development strategies or other relevant policy plans;

(w) Resolve to take further effective measures to remove obstacles to the full realization of the rights of people living under colonial and foreign occupation, which are incompatible with the dignity and worth of human persons and must be combated and eliminated;

(x) Concerning the means of implementation, mobilize adequate resources to meet the water, sanitation and human settlements goals and targets, tapping both domestic and international sources through a range of financing approaches, such as:

(i) Increasing donor financial support, upon request, to water, sanitation and human settlements initiatives in developing countries;

(ii) Identifying and promoting innovative and sustainable means of financing;

(iii) Enhancing the sustainability of ecosystems that provide essential resources and services for human well-being and economic activity and developing innovative means of financing for their protection;

(iv) Encouraging the Bretton Woods institutions, the Global Environment Facility within its mandate and the regional banks to enhance their assistance to the water, sanitation and human settlements sectors;

(v) Establishing and promoting public-private and public-public partnerships;

(vi) Increasing allocations from national and subnational budgets;

(vii) Developing and supporting local financial institutions and markets, including pooled financial facilities, revolving funds, loan guarantees and microcredit facilities;

(viii) Providing support to regional and subregional initiatives such as the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development and the Meeting of Ministers of Housing and Urban Development of Latin America and the Caribbean;

(ix) Providing support for capacity-building in developing countries;

(x) Providing environmentally sound technology to developing countries in accordance with paragraph 105 of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

E. International institutional arrangements for monitoring and follow-up of decisions on water, sanitation and human settlements taken by the Commission at its thirteenth session

(y) Reaffirm that the Commission for Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level commission responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system;

(z) Also reaffirm the mandate of the Commission as stipulated in Agenda 21, General Assembly resolution 47/191 of 22 December 1992 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003 on the future programme, organization and methods of work of the Commission;

(aa) Support, strengthen and implement voluntary monitoring, reporting and assessment of the thematic areas of water, sanitation and human settlements at the national and regional levels and through existing mechanisms at the global level to keep track of progress in achieving sustainable development, bearing in mind the specific needs of developing countries, by the following measures:

(i) Improving data collection at all levels;

(ii) Enhancing the comparability of data at the regional and global levels;

(iii) Facilitating the contribution of major groups to national reporting activities;

(iv) Requesting the Commission secretariat to update the policy options and practical measures contained in the Chairman's summary of the interactive discussions held at the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting, on a regular basis, so as to make it a living document, and to develop web-based tools to disseminate information on implementation and best practices;

(bb) Encourage Member States to continue to work on the development and application of indicators for sustainable development at the national level, including integration of gender aspects, on a voluntary basis, in line with their national conditions and priorities, and in this regard invites the international community to support the efforts of developing countries;

Follow-up on water and sanitation

(cc) Requests UN-Water to give equal consideration to the thematic issues for the Commission's thirteenth session of sanitation and water in its terms of reference, and to promote, within its mandate, system-wide inter-agency cooperation and

coordination among relevant United Nations organizations, funds and programmes on these issues, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the Commission the activities of UN-Water as they relate to the aforementioned thematic areas, including the roles and responsibilities of relevant United Nations organizations, funds and programmes in implementing and monitoring the water and sanitation agenda, including identifying duplication, overlap and gaps;

4. *Decides* to devote, in 2008 and 2012, without prejudice to the programme, organization and methods of work of the Commission adopted at its eleventh session, a separate segment at the end of its review sessions, for a duration to be determined by the Bureau in advance, using one to two days as a benchmark, to monitor and follow up the implementation of decisions on water and sanitation, and their interlinkages, taken at the Commission's thirteenth session;

Follow-up on human settlements

5. *Requests* UN-Habitat as the focal agency for human settlements, to facilitate, in close collaboration with relevant United Nations organizations and programmes as well as other partners, effective global monitoring of progress in the implementation of human settlements goals and targets, as well as measures agreed at the thirteenth session of the Commission concerning human settlements;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen the capacities of UN-Habitat to provide, within its mandate, increased assistance to developing countries, and countries with economies in transition, including through the current pilot phase of the Slum Upgrading Facility;

Follow-up on small island developing States

7. *Decides*, recalling the decision taken by the Commission at its eleventh session that small island developing States-related issues were to be both considered cross-cutting issues at each session of the Commission and included in the thematic cluster for the Commission in 2014/2015, to devote one day of the review sessions of the Commission to the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[11] focusing on that year's thematic cluster, as well as on any new developments regarding the sustainable development efforts of small island developing States using existing modalities. In this regard, the Secretary-General is requested to submit a report to the Commission at its review session concerning progress and obstacles in respect of sustainable development in small island developing States and making recommendations on enhancing its implementation.

Chapter II

Report of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

1. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 2nd meeting, on 11 April 2005. At the same meeting, the Chairman introduced the report of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (E/CN.17/2005/6).

2. Also at the 2nd meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, the candidate countries Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Turkey and the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia and Montenegro) and the United States of America.

Chapter III

Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2004/2005 (policy session): (a) water; (b) sanitation; (c) human settlements

1. The Commission considered item 4 of its agenda at its 2nd to 18th meetings, from 11 to 22 April 2005.

2. At its 2nd meeting, on 11 April, the Commission heard presentations on the outcomes of intersessional events by the following participants: Yoshitaka Murata (Japan) on the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Japan, in January 2005; Dumisani Shadrack Kumalo (South Africa) on the African Ministers Meeting on Housing and Urban Development, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 January to 4 February 2005; Enele Sosene Sopoaga (Tuvalu) on the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Port Louis, Mauritius, in January 2005; and Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco) on the Second International Forum on Partnerships for Sustainable Development, held in Marrakesh, Morocco, in March 2005.

3. At its 3rd meeting, on 11 April, the Commission heard regional presentations focusing on water, sanitation and human settlements by Josué Dioné, Economic Commission for Africa, Metsi Makhetha, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and Shehu Yahaya, African Development Bank, on behalf of the African region; Kazi Rahman, Regional Commissions New York Office, Boo-nam Shin (Republic of Korea) and Razina Bilgrami, UNDP, on behalf of the Asia and Pacific region; Hosny Khordagui, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, and Oscar Fernández-Taranco, UNDP, on behalf of the Western Asia region; Joséluis Samaniego, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and Maribel Rodríguez-Ríos, UNDP, on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean region; and Kaj Barlund, Economic Commission for Europe, and Gulden Turkoz-Cosslett, UNDP, on behalf of the Eastern European, Western European, Northern American and other regions.

4. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Rio Group), Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Belgium (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Canada and Australia and the observers for the United Republic of Tanzania, Mexico and Cuba.

5. Also at the 3rd meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

6. At the same meeting, the regional representatives responded to questions posed and comments raised.

7. At the 4th meeting, on 12 April, the Vice-Chairperson of the Commission, Dagmara Berbalk (Germany), made an introductory statement.

8. At the same meeting, the Commission began an interactive discussion on "Integrated water resources management" and heard presentations by the following panellists: Roberto Lenton of the Global Water Partnership and Joachim Harlin of UNDP.

9. Also at the 4th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the Islamic Republic of Iran, Norway and Japan and the observers for Switzerland and Bangladesh and non-governmental organizations.

10. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of UNEP.

11. Also at the 4th meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

12. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

13. Also at the 4th meeting, the Commission held an interactive discussion on "Access to safe drinking water in urban and rural areas" and heard presentations by the following panellists: Jamal Saghir of the World Bank and Ravi Narayan of Water Aid.

14. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Finland, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United States of America, the Republic of Korea and Canada and the observers for Indonesia, Iceland, Kenya, Mexico and the Philippines.

15. Also at the 4th meeting, a statement was made by the observer for the European Commission.

16. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the workers and trade unions, indigenous people, youth and children, and business and industry major groups.

17. Also at the 4th meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance, a non-governmental organization.

18. At the same meeting (parallel), the Commission held an interactive discussion on "Access to housing and public services" and heard presentations by the following panellists: Dinesh Mehta and Nefise Bazoglu of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

19. Also at the 4th meeting (parallel), statements were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Finland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), South Africa, Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Brazil, the Russian Federation, France, Egypt, the Republic of Korea, Norway, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Australia, Ghana, Belgium and Uganda and the observers for Sweden (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Cuba, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania.

20. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the local authorities, indigenous people, workers and trade unions, and non-governmental organizations major groups.

21. Also at the 4th meeting (parallel), the representative of the Division for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat made a statement.

22. At its 5th meeting, on 12 April, the Commission continued its discussion on water.

23. Statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, Burkina Faso, Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and Colombia and the observers for Tuvalu and Switzerland.

24. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the scientific and technological community major group.

25. Also at the 5th meeting, the Commission began an interactive discussion on "Access to basic sanitation and hygiene" and heard presentations by the following panellists: Ede Ijjasz of the World Bank, Gouri Sankar Ghosh of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council and Vanessa Torbin of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

26. At the same meeting, the Commission held an interactive discussion on "Wastewater treatment and recycling and reuse" and heard presentations by the following panellists: Veerle Vanderwerd of UNEP and Jamie Bertram of the World Health Organization (WHO).

27. Also at the 5th meeting, statements addressing both panels were made by the representatives of France, Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ghana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group), Canada, the United States of America, Australia, Colombia and the Islamic Republic of Iran and the observers for Bangladesh, Kenya, Senegal, Israel, Botswana, Mexico and the United Republic of Tanzania.

28. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the youth and children, women, indigenous people, non-governmental organizations, business and industry, workers and trade unions, and scientific and technological community major groups.

29. At the 5th meeting (parallel), on 12 April, the Commission held an interactive discussion on "Job creation and enterprise promotion" and heard an introductory statement by Kees van der Ree of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

30. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United States of America, the Republic of Korea, Ghana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group), Australia and South Africa and the observer for Kenya.

31. Also at the 5th meeting (parallel), statements were made by representatives of the non-governmental organizations, youth and children, scientific and technological community, women, business and industry, workers and trade unions, and local authorities major groups.

32. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of UN-Habitat.

33. Also at the 5th meeting, the Commission began an interactive discussion on "Strengthening the monitoring and evaluation of water and sanitation" and heard presentations by Jamie Bartram of WHO and Richard Robarts of the Global Environment Monitoring Systems/Water Programme of UNEP.

34. At the same meeting, the Commission began an interactive discussion on "Water and sanitation follow-up" and heard presentations by Al Duda of the Global Environment Facility and Patrick Murphy of the European Union Water Initiative.

35. Also at the 5th meeting, statements addressing both topics were made by the representatives of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Ghana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group), Japan, France, Canada, Brazil, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Egypt, South Africa, the United States of America, Antigua and Barbuda, Uganda and Norway and the observers for Nigeria, Indonesia, Switzerland, Mexico, Kenya, Cuba, India, Tuvalu, Namibia and the Syrian Arab Republic.

36. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the African Development Bank and the League of Arab States.

37. Also at the 5th meeting, a statement was made by the representative of UN-Habitat.

38. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the non-governmental organizations, workers and trade unions, farmers, and business and industry major groups.

39. At the 7th meeting, on 13 April, the Commission began an interactive discussion on "Interlinkages among the three themes" and heard presentations by Katherine Sierra of the World Bank and Carlos Linares of UNDP.

40. At the same meeting, the Commission began an interactive discussion on "Interlinkages among the three themes and all cross-cutting issues" and heard presentations by Yasmin Von Shirnding of WHO and Ethne Davey of the Gender and Water Alliance.

41. Also at the 7th meeting, statements addressing both topics were made by the representatives of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Belgium (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Colombia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Norway, South Africa, Brazil, the United States of America, Ghana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group), Uganda, Australia and France and

the observers for Switzerland, New Zealand, the United Republic of Tanzania, India, Senegal, the Syrian Arab Republic and Bolivia.

42. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of UN-Habitat and UNEP.

43. Also at the 7th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the youth and children, scientific and technological community, non-governmental organizations, women, local authorities, business and industry, indigenous people, and workers and trade unions major groups.

44. At the 8th meeting, on 15 April, the Chairperson introduced the draft elements for negotiations which were contained in an informal paper in English only.

45. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the United States of America, Norway, Australia, Canada and Uganda and the observers for Tuvalu (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Alliance of Small Island States), New Zealand, Iceland and Sierra Leone.

46. Also at the 8th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the youth and children, farmers, indigenous people, local authorities, non-governmental organizations, scientific and technological community, women, and workers and trade unions major groups.

47. At the same meeting, the Chairman made a statement, after which statements were made by the representatives of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union).

48. At its 9th meeting, on 15 April, the Commission began its first reading of the draft elements for negotiations.

49. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and the observer for the United Republic of Tanzania.

50. At the 10th meeting, on 18 April, a statement was made by the representative of Indonesia, in which he presented the outcome of the twenty-third session of the Governing Council of UNEP.

51. At the same meeting, the Chairman made a statement, after which statements were made by the representatives of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and the observer for Switzerland.

52. At the 11th meeting, on 18 April, the Secretary-General addressed the Panel of Finance and Development Cooperation Ministers and Experts.

53. At the same meeting, presentations were made by Ian Johnson, Vice-President of the Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development Network, World Bank Group and Carlos Fortin, Officer-in-Charge, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

54. Also at the 11th meeting, the Co-Moderators of the Panel, Hilde Johnson, Minister of International Development of Norway, and Trevor Manuel, Minister for Finance of South Africa, made introductory remarks and posed a series of questions to the panellists.

55. At the same meeting, the panellists, Dr. Errol Cort, Minister of Finance, Antigua and Barbuda; Carin Jamtin, Minister for International Development Cooperation, Sweden; Suma Chakrabarti, Permanent Secretary, Department for International Development, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; Adolfo Franco, Assistant Administrator, Latin America and the Caribbean, United States Agency for International Development (USAID); and Len Good, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Global Environment Facility, responded to the questions posed by the Co-Moderators.

56. Also at the 11th meeting, the delegations of Egypt, Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Colombia, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Namibia, Venezuela, the United States of America, Uganda and Mexico participated in an interactive discussion.

57. At the same meeting, the Co-Moderators summarized the discussion.

58. At the 12th meeting, on 19 April, the Chairman made a statement, after which statements were made by Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), the United States of America, Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Japan and Australia and the observer for Tuvalu.

59. At the same meeting, the Chairman answered questions posed by the delegations.

High-level segment

60. The Commission held a high-level segment from 20 to 22 April 2005.

61. At the 13th meeting, on 20 April, the Chairperson opened the high-level segment.

62. At the same meeting, the Deputy Secretary-General addressed the Commission.

63. At the 13th to 18th meetings from 20 to 22 April, Ministers made statements during the high-level segment.

64. At its 13th meeting, the Commission viewed a video message by Nobel Laureate Professor Wangari Maathai.

65. At the same meeting, the Chairman made a statement summarizing the work of the thirteenth session of the Commission to date.

66. Also at the 13th meeting, ministerial statements on the theme "Turning political commitments into action" were made by Claude Wiseler, Minister of Public Works (Luxembourg) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union); Donald Buchanan, Minister of Water and Housing (Jamaica) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China); Kwak Kyul-ho, Minister of Environment (Republic of Korea); Willmoth Daniel, Minister of Works, Transport and Environment (Antigua and Barbuda); Jürgen Trittin, Minister for Environment (Germany); Pieter van Geel, State Secretary for Sustainable Development (Netherlands); Paula Dobriansky, Under-Secretary of State for Global Affairs (United States of America); and Aldo Mantovani, Deputy Permanent Representative (Italy).

67. At the same meeting, the Commission viewed a video presentation on the theme "Meeting the Millennium Development Goals related to water, sanitation and human settlements targets" by Professor Jeffrey Sachs, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General and Director of the United Nations Millennium Project.

68. Also at the 13th meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Planning made an opening statement.

69. At the same meeting, a statement was made by Stavros Dimas, Commissioner for Environment of the European Commission, as the first respondent.

70. Also at the 13th meeting, ministerial statements were made by Byron Blake, Ambassador (Jamaica) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China); Claude Wiseler, Minister of Public Works (Luxembourg) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union); Dick Roche, Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government (Ireland); Senator Ian Campbell, Minister for the Environment (Australia); Paula Lehtomäki, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development (Finland); Dr. José Guillermo Maza, Minister of Health (El Salvador); Arcardo Ntagazwa, Minister of State (United Republic of Tanzania); Lindiwe Sisulu, Minister of Housing (South Africa); Lord Whitty of Camberwell, Minister for Farming, Food and Sustainable Energy (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Sylvia Masebo, Minister of Local Government and Housing (Zambia); Taher E. Jehaimi, Secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya); Prince Torki Bin Nasser Al-Saud, Head of Meteorology and Environmental Protection Agency (Saudi Arabia); Dr. Nikola Ružinski, State Secretary for Environment Protection (Croatia); Beat Nobs, Ambassador, Deputy Head of the delegation (Switzerland); and Collin Beck, Ambassador, Permanent Representative (Solomon Islands).

71. At the same meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Planning responded to points raised by the delegations.

72. At the 14th meeting, on 20 April, a statement on the theme "Turning political commitments into action" was made by Børge Brende, Minister of Trade and Industry of Norway and Chairman of the twelfth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

73. At the same meeting, ministerial statements were made by Mahmoud Abouzeid, Minister for Water Resources and Irrigation (Egypt); Dr. Ponts'o Matumelo Sekatle, Minister of Local Government (Lesotho); Jerzy Swaton, Minister

for Environment (Poland); Ulla Tornes, Minister for Development (Denmark); Hafiz Uddin Ahmed, Minister for Water Resources (Bangladesh); Laszlo Miklos, Minister of Environment (Slovakia); Sigridur Anna Thordardottir, Minister for the Environment (Iceland); Amos Kimunya, Minister for Lands and Housing (Kenya); Mamadou Lamine Ba, Minister of Prevention, Public Hygiene and Sanitation (Senegal); Huseyngulu Baghiron, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources (Azerbaijan); Marthinus van Schalkwyk, Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (South Africa); Jacqueline Faria, Minister of Environment (Venezuela); Mona Sahlin, Minister for Sustainable Development (Sweden); Donald Buchanan, Minister for Water and Housing (Jamaica); Christine Churcher, Minister of Environment and Science (Ghana); Philippe Djangoné-Bi, Ambassador (Côte d'Ivoire); Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization (WMO); the observer for the Holy See; Sonia Tschorne Berestesky, Minister for Housing and Urbanization (Chile); John Pandeni, Minister of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development (Namibia); Serge Lepeltier, Minister of Ecology and Sustainable Development (France); Tahir Iqbal, Minister for Environment (Pakistan); and Ibrahim Sesay, Deputy Minister of Development and Economic Planning (Sierra Leone).

74. Also at the 14th meeting, the Commission began an interactive discussion on the topic "Impact of natural disasters on water, sanitation and human settlements: prevention and response".

75. At the same meeting, Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General of WMO, and Salvano Briceño, Director of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat, made presentations.

76. Also at the 14th meeting, Masaki Konishi, Ambassador for Global Environmental Affairs (Japan), made a statement in response to the presentations.

77. At the same meeting, ministerial statements were made by Claude Wiseler, Minister of Public Works (Luxembourg) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union); Senator Ian Campbell, Minister for the Environment (Australia); Dr. Mok Mareth, Senior Minister of Environment (Cambodia); Hafiz Uddin Ahmed, Minister for Water Resources (Bangladesh); Stavros Dimas, Commissioner for Environment (European Commission); Patana Rantetoding, Deputy Minister for Rural Development (Indonesia); Lena Sommestad, Minister of Environment (Sweden); Miklos Persanyi, Minister for Environment and Water (Hungary); Thomas Zeitner, Secretary of State and Director of the Swiss Federal Office for Health (Switzerland); Tahir Iqbal, Minister for Environment (Pakistan); Mamadou Lamine Ba, Minister of Prevention, Public Hygiene and Sanitation (Senegal); Francisco Nunes Correia, Minister for the Environment, Territorial Planning and Regional Development (Portugal); and Tomas Novotny, Deputy Minister of Environment (Czech Republic).

78. Also at the 14th meeting, the invited speakers made concluding remarks.

79. At the 15th meeting, on 21 April, presentations were made by Jacques Diouf, Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); Kerstin Leitner, Assistant Director-General, WHO; Kunio Waki, Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Kul Guatam, Deputy Executive Director, UNICEF; Brigita Schmögnerová, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Europe (ECE); Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General, WMO; Hama

Arba Diallo, Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; Kiyo Akasaka, Deputy-Secretary-General, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); Peter Bridgewater, Secretary-General, Ramsar Convention; and Klaus Topfer, Executive Director, UNEP.

80. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Guyana, Pakistan, France, Luxembourg and Brazil.

81. Also at the 15th meeting, a statement was made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, in response to the points raised in the interactive discussion.

82. At the same meeting, a statement on the theme "Turning political commitments into action" was made by Mikhail Gorbachev, Founding President of the Green Cross International.

83. Also at the 15th meeting, a statement by His Royal Highness the Prince of Orange was read out by the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands.

84. At the same meeting, ministerial statements were made by Elizabeth Thompson-McDowald, Minister of Housing, Lands and the Environment (Barbados); Stefan Wallin, Secretary of State for the Environment (Finland); Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director, UN-Habitat; Miklos Persanyi, Minister for Environment and Water (Hungary); Sylvi Graham, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (Norway); Elsa Van Weert, State Secretary for Sustainable Development and Social Economy (Belgium); Wang Guangtao, Minister of Construction (China); Erminia Maricato, Deputy Minister for the Cities (Brazil); Sinisa Stankovic, Assistant Minister for Environment Protection and Urban Planning (Serbia and Montenegro); Shimon Tal, Commissioner for Water (Israel); Annika Velthut, Secretary-General, Ministry of Environment (Estonia); Chansy Phosikham, Minister for Finance (Lao People's Democratic Republic); Stavros Dimas, Commissioner for Environment, European Community; Francisco Nunes Correia, Minister for the Environment, Territorial Planning and Regional Development (Portugal); Vladimir A. Averchenko, Minister of Housing, Construction and Public Utilities (Russian Federation); and Margaret Catley-Carson, Chairperson, Global Water Partnership.

85. At the 16th meeting, on 21 April, ministerial statements were made by Dr. Earl Asim Martin, Minister of Public Works, Utilities, Transport and Posts (Saint Kitts and Nevis); Penelope Beckles, Minister of Public Utilities and Environment (Trinidad and Tobago); Dr. Mamphono Khaketla, Minister of Natural Resources (Lesotho); Buyelwa Sonjica, Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry (South Africa); Sylvia Masebo, Minister of Local Government and Housing (Zambia) (on behalf of the Commonwealth Consultative Group on Human Settlements); Mohamed Bennouna, Ambassador and Permanent Representative (Morocco); Karen Kraft Sloan, Ambassador for the Environment (Canada); Vardan Ayvazyan, Minister of Nature Protection (Armenia); Max Puig, Secretary of State for the Environment and Natural Resources (Dominican Republic); Saufatu Sopoanga, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Works and Energy (Tuvalu) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Pacific Islands Forum Group); Hiroshi Takano, Senior Vice-Minister of the Environment (Japan); Fernando Tudela, Vice-Minister of Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico); and Bruno Dacko, Minister of Environment and Tourism, Artisanal and Social Economy (Central African Republic).

86. At the same meeting, a statement was made by Mahmoud Abu Zeid (Egypt).

87. Also at the 16th meeting, an interactive discussion with the major groups took place during which statements were made by the following major groups: women; children and youth; indigenous people; non-governmental organizations; local authorities; workers and trade unions; business and industry; scientific and technological community; and farmers.

88. At the same meeting, a ministerial statement was made by Claude Wiseler, Minister of Public Works (Luxembourg) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union); João Bosco Senra, Secretary of Water Resources, Ministry of Environment (Brazil); the delegate of Norway; Maria Madalena Brito Neves, Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries (Cape Verde); Lena Sommestad, Minister for Environment (Sweden); Mamadou Sidibe, Minister for Sustainable Development (Senegal); Tasneem Essop, Provincial Minister of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Western Cape Province (South Africa); Huseyngulu Baghiron, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources (Azerbaijan); Serge Lepeltier, Minister of Ecology and Sustainable Development (France); and Karen Kraft Sloan, Ambassador for the Environment (Canada).

89. Also at the 16th meeting, ministerial statements were made on the theme "Turning political commitments into action" by Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, Minister of Environment (Costa Rica); Patrick Kalifungwa, Minister of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources (Zambia); and Colonel Bala Mande, Minister for Environment (Nigeria).

90. At the 17th meeting, on 22 April, a statement was made by Sunita Narain, winner of the Stockholm Water Prize for 2005.

91. At the same meeting, statements were made by Thomas Zeltner, Secretary of State and Director of the Swiss Federal Office for Health (Switzerland); Wolfgang Stalzer, Director-General, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management (Austria); Enele Sopoanga, Permanent Representative (Tuvalu) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Alliance of Small Island States); Achim Steiner, Director-General, World Conservation Union/IUCN; María Madalena Brito Neves, Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Fisheries (Cape Verde); Jules Codjo Assogban, Minister of Environment, Housing and Urbanism (Benin); Arcardo Ntagazwa, Minister of State, Vice-President's Office (Environment) (United Republic of Tanzania); Sidi Mohamed Ould Taleb Amar, Minister for Rural Development (Mauritania); Seraphine Wakana, Minister for Development Planning and Reconstruction (Burundi); Ammar Hijazi for Dr. Mohamad Shtaya, Minister of Housing and Public Works (Palestine); Jorge Villacorta, Vice-Minister for Sanitation and Construction (Peru); Mostapha Karim Rahiel, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Water (Algeria); Jorge Skinner-Klee, Ambassador (Guatemala); Yerzhan Kazykhanov, Permanent Representative (Kazakhstan); Radzi Rahman, Ambassador (Malaysia); Chanel Roucher, Vice-President, African Development Bank; Zephirin Diabre, Associate Administrator, UNDP; Denis Dangue Rewaka, Ambassador (Gabon); Ismael Gaspar Martins, Permanent Representative (Angola); N. N. Meena, Minister of State for Environment and Forest (India); Henri Djombo, Minister of Economy, Forestry and Environment (Congo); Carmen Elena Arévalo Correa, Vice-Minister of Environment (Colombia); Kahinda Otafiire, Minister for Water, Land and the

Environment (Uganda); Marjan Šetinc, Ambassador, Head of Government Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance (Slovenia); Thosapalage Hewage, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development and Water Supply (Sri Lanka); Antonio Serrano, Secretary-General for Environmental Affairs and Biodiversity (Spain); Mithat Rende, Deputy Director-General of Energy, Water and Environment (Turkey); Leutlwetse Mmualefe, Acting Ambassador (Botswana); Orlando Requeijo Gual, Permanent Representative (Cuba); Dr. Kamal Khalier, Adviser, Ministry of Planning and International Planning (Jordan); Khunying Laxanachantorn Laohaphan, Permanent Representative and Head of Delegation (Thailand); Tiruneh Zena, Permanent Representative (Ethiopia); Karen Kraft Sloan, Ambassador for Environment (Canada); Rashid Alimov, Ambassador and Permanent Representative (Tajikistan); Dr. Yessef Hojjat, Deputy Head for Human Environment, Department of Environment (Islamic Republic of Iran); Stuart Leslie, Permanent Representative (Belize) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Caribbean Community); and Mukhari Shagari, Minister for Water Resources (Nigeria).

Action taken by the Commission

Policy options and practical measures to expedite implementation in water, sanitation and human settlements

92. At the 18th meeting, on 22 April, the Chairman introduced the draft negotiating text, which had been circulated in English only.

93. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), after which the Commission adopted the text, as orally revised by the Chairman (see chap. I, sect. C).

94. After the adoption of the text, statements were made by the representatives of Australia, Canada and Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) (see annex III).

Policy session

A. Opening statements

95. Opening the first policy session, the Chairman of the Commission, John W. Ashe (Antigua and Barbuda), emphasized that progress had fallen far short of what was needed to implement the Johannesburg outcome and meet the relevant Millennium Development Goals and targets in relation to water, sanitation and human settlements.

96. The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, José Antonio Ocampo, highlighted the urgent need for accelerating progress towards targets on safe drinking water, basic sanitation, improving the lives of slum-dwellers and sound management of freshwater resources.

97. The Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) spoke on the outcome of the twentieth session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, held in Nairobi, from 4 to 8 April, 2005, drawing attention to issues not resolved in Nairobi and including the adequacy of the slum target, that is to say, improving the conditions of 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020.

98. The Executive Director of UNEP drew attention to the eighth special session of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, held from 29 to 31 March 2004 in Jeju, Republic of Korea, which had addressed the environmental underpinnings of the Millennium Development Goals.

B. Reporting on intersessional events

99. Following introductory statements, the Commission heard reports on the outcome of a number of intersessional events that had not been presented at its Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting. A representative of Japan reported on the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held from 18 to 22 January 2005 in Kobe, Japan. He said the Conference had aimed at constructing a guiding framework for disaster reduction and drew attention to the outcome of the conference, known as the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters.

100. A representative of South Africa highlighted the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 January to 4 February 2005, and the adoption of the African common position, as spelled out in the Enhanced Framework of Implementation.

101. A representative of Tuvalu, speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Alliance of Small Island States, highlighted the outcomes of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (10-14 January 2005), drawing attention to the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which captured the vulnerabilities of small island developing States in the area of water resources, sanitation and human settlements.

102. A representative of Morocco reported on the outcome of the Second International Forum on Partnerships for Sustainable Development, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 21 to 23 March 2005.

C. Regional perspectives session

103. The Commission held a regional perspectives session, focusing on practical measures and options to expedite implementation in relation to water, sanitation and human settlements. Panel presentations on regional perspectives were followed by interactive discussions, summarized below.

Africa

104. Panellists from the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), UNDP-Africa and the African Development Bank led off the discussion by giving their perspectives on implementation efforts in the African region. Highlighted was the role of the African Ministerial Conference on Water as a mechanism for intergovernmental cooperation on water policy development and implementation, as well as the role of the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development in relation to human settlements.

105. UNDP-Africa mentioned the GEF-funded Nile Basin Environment Programme and community water initiatives in different countries. The need was underlined for the provision of water supply, sanitation and housing to be tackled in an integrated manner, in the context of other challenges facing Africa, such as food insecurity and the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

106. Panellists speaking on behalf of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and one from UNDP-Asia and the Pacific initiated the discussion by highlighting implementation efforts in the Asia and the Pacific region. Recommended policy options and possible actions pertinent to most developing countries in the region were: including the water agenda in nationally owned development strategies such as poverty reduction strategies and national sustainable development strategies; strengthening governance of public water utilities; reducing risks through risk management and mitigating the impact of water-related disasters; strengthening international cooperation on international water governance; developing a national policy framework for sanitation; an integrated approach to human settlements planning; providing adequate housing, infrastructure and public services to the urban poor; and facilitating community dialogues.

Western Asia

107. Panellists from the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and UNDP-Arab States provided their regional perspectives to start off the discussion. The fact that this region was considered one of the most water-stressed in the world had led many countries to adopt fossil groundwater exploitation and seawater desalination. Many countries are already mainstreaming water concerns in national development strategies, have undertaken water sector planning in coordination with broader development planning, and have developed frameworks in the form of action plans or master plans. However, there remained a need to integrate sanitation into national sustainable development strategies and to develop national policy frameworks for sanitation by improving institutional coordination and decentralization. There was also a need for capacity-building of

national institutions for setting, monitoring and enforcing sanitation standards. The importance of resource mobilization was stressed.

Latin America and the Caribbean

108. Panellists from the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and UNDP-Latin America and the Caribbean led the discussion by outlining their perspectives and implementation efforts in the region. Practical measures were recommended by the Commission.

109. UNDP-Latin America and the Caribbean mentioned its regional programme which supported local communities, the legal framework for water action and the risk management approach. The representative of Argentina highlighted the interest of the countries of the Rio Group in strengthening regional cooperation. The representative of Mexico emphasized the importance of promoting economic incentive systems and mainstreaming improved technologies as means to stimulate initiatives in improving coastal management and integrated water resources management. ECLAC agreed with the Rio Group regarding the need for holding consultations to harmonize integrated water resources management approaches.

Europe, Northern America and other regions

110. Panellists from the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and UNDP-Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) provided their perspectives to lead off the discussion. Accession to the European Union (EU) has been a driving force in improving water governance in the region. Despite the progress achieved, however, there was a need for action-oriented local and national measures as well as regional cooperation to speed up efforts to meet the Millennium Development Goals and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation commitments, particularly in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asian countries.

111. The representative of EU recommended that actions and priorities be adopted consistent with the degree of economic development of the region and its legislation. In particular, developed countries in the region needed to: deliver on their commitments to increase ODA in line with the 0.7 per cent targets; intensify their efforts in leading the drive for sustainable consumption and production, which could be addressed through integrated planning of the urban environment; promote integrated approaches to water and sanitation; and increase regional cooperation on integrated water resources management at a basin level.

D. Consideration of policy options and other measures

112. Following the regional perspectives session, the Commission focused its deliberations on those policy options and practical measures in the three thematic areas whose implementation would require concerted global effort. These interactive discussions were led off by panellists from United Nations organizations, funds and programmes and intergovernmental organizations, and included consideration of all cross-cutting issues. Parallel sessions were structured around the following topics: integrated water resources management; access to safe drinking water in urban and rural areas; access to basic sanitation and hygiene; wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse; access to housing and public services; and job-creation and enterprise promotion. The Commission held interactive discussions in plenary on: strengthening the monitoring and evaluation of water and sanitation services; and

water and sanitation follow-up. It also discussed key interlinkages among water, sanitation and human settlements, highlighting those considered likely to maximize impact and synergy in all three thematic areas and also considered interlinkages among the three themes and all cross-cutting issues as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission.

113. Based on these discussions, the Chairman produced draft elements for decision, which provided the basis for negotiations with respect to reaching agreement on practical measures and options to expedite implementation.

E. Summary of the Panel of Finance and Development Cooperation Ministers and Experts

114. To support the deliberations of the Commission at its thirteenth session in relation to the economic benefits of sound policies for water, sanitation and human settlements at all levels, the Commission heard the discussion of the Panel of Finance and Development Cooperation Ministers and Experts on 18 April. The Secretary-General opened the Panel discussion.

115. The World Bank and UNCTAD introduced their background documents. The World Bank highlighted three key issues regarding water resources management: ecological management of water; economic management of water; and allocation of water among major users: agriculture, industry and services. UNCTAD focused on the short-term positive effects, and the longer-term conflicting effects of privatization of water delivery.

116. As Co-Moderator, the Minister of International Development of Norway noted that there had been a decline in international assistance to the water sector during the last few years. The Minister of Finance of South Africa, the other Co-Moderator, highlighted the magnitude of resource constraints. The Co-Moderators set the framework for discussion in terms of: how to deliver the Millennium Development Goal targets; what would be the right financing mix; and where and how to find the financial resources.

117. Panellists stressed the importance of country ownership of water and sanitation policies and services. Targeted subsidies could improve the access to water by the poor while at the same time avert losses by the private sector. The importance of managing and maintaining ecosystems and their services was also stressed. Noting that water was a vital resource, panellists stressed that it should remain primarily under government control and called for increased assistance by the international community. Panellists also emphasized the need to provide access to microcredit and microfinance to improve human settlements, including housing.

118. The interactive discussion covered a wide range of issues from appropriate institutional mechanisms to freedom from corruption in the provision of services in these sectors. The roles of the public and private sectors in delivering such services were also discussed. Many participants stressed that while it was the responsibility of Governments to ensure universal access to water, owing to the magnitude of demand, Governments alone could not carry the burden.

F. High-level segment

119. Attended by over 100 Ministers, the Commission's high-level segment focused its interactive discussions on the theme of "Turning political commitments into action".

120. Ministers urged that the Commission at its thirteenth session send a clear message to the 2005 High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly that would undertake a comprehensive review of the progress made in the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration because the Millennium Development Goals and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation commitments were complementary. Efforts to reach the Millennium Development Goal targets on water, sanitation and human settlements represented an investment that would pay off in a significant reduction in extreme poverty, water-borne diseases and environmental degradation.

121. Ministers agreed that one of the main obstacles to achieving progress towards agreed goals and targets was lack of financial resources. In this regard, a number of Ministers called for the full implementation of the Monterrey Consensus.

122. Ministers stressed that integrated approaches were needed for the areas of water, sanitation and human settlements because they confronted common obstacles and entailed common solutions. In order to overcome these obstacles, important cross-cutting issues must be addressed. These integrated planning efforts, including integrated water resources management, should be fully incorporated in national sustainable development strategies and poverty reduction strategies.

123. Ministers noted that, while Governments had the primary responsibility for providing access to affordable and sustainable water, sanitation and housing, they could not act alone and a mix of interventions was required at various levels. Governments require the active participation of public/private sector partnerships, communities, non-governmental organizations and local authorities in order to reach the goals and targets in these three areas.

124. Economic growth is the basis for sustainable provision of basic services related to water, sanitation and human settlements; therefore, developing countries should strengthen their enabling environments for investment in order to set the stage for economic growth. To facilitate such growth, developed countries should liberalize their trade regulations in order to allow goods from developing countries freer access to their markets. They should also facilitate technology transfer and capacity-building.

125. Many delegations stated the necessity of national ownership of national sustainable development strategies. It was noted that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation contained clear targets for preparation of national sustainable development strategies and integrated water resources management plans by 2005. Delegations called for renewed efforts to achieve those targets.

126. There was broad consensus that sound water governance at the national level was essential to achievement of water targets and should be strengthened. In this regard, Governments should develop integrated water resources management plans and river basin management plans based on multi-stakeholder participation and shared responsibilities with local authorities. At the international level, there was a

call for strengthening UN-Water to ensure coordination, monitoring and analysis of issues.

127. It was recognized that the poor and slum-dwellers lived and earned their livelihoods within the informal sector having no access to capital and lacking both legal protection and land tenure security. There was a suggestion that a high-level legal commission be launched to pursue formalization of informal assets and legal rights for the poor. This would allow them to leverage access to credit and would catalyse economic development — important steps to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

128. A number of countries called for a one-day review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States during each review year of the Commission. They emphasized that the Mauritius Strategy reaffirmed the importance of the integration of water, sanitation and human settlements, as well as the special vulnerability of small island developing States .

129. Ministers stressed that there was a need for continued effective monitoring and follow-up of progress towards targets and goals related to water, sanitation and human settlements. Monitoring is the basis for political guidance to the integrated follow-up of summits and for synergy between World Summit on Sustainable Development goals and the Millennium Development Goals. Ministers from developing countries called for monitoring of targets related to means of implementation, in particular financing, transfer of technologies and capacity-building.

Discussion on the Millennium Development Goals

130. An interactive discussion on "Meeting the Millennium Development Goals related to water, sanitation and human settlements targets" was led off by two panellists. The Director of the United Nations Millennium Project, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General, emphasized that 2005 was a "make-or-break" year as far as the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals was concerned.

131. The Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Planning in discussing the Secretary-General's report entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all", observed that the report had called upon developing countries to prepare nationally owned comprehensive investment plans, informed by the Millennium Development Goals and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation goals and targets, for discussions with and financing by donors.

132. During the interactive discussion that followed, some Ministers also emphasized the critical and fundamental importance of environmental sustainability, including with respect to meeting the Millennium Development Goals as a whole. They noted the need for substantial additional resources, including official development assistance (ODA) as well as other sources of finance. Ministers underlined that developing countries faced constraints with respect to technical and institutional capacities, exacerbated by an outflow of skilled personnel.

133. Ministers highlighted the need for strengthening institutions and legal and regulatory frameworks as well as the importance of fostering an enabling environment at both the national and the international level, including through improved governance in the international financial institutions and enhanced market

access for developing countries. They stressed the important role of education, gender equality, and sustainable production and consumption patterns and also discussed the need to expand the number of practical partnerships.

Impact of natural disasters on water, sanitation and human settlements: prevention and response

134. Also during the high-level segment, on 20 April 2005, the Commission held an interactive discussion on the "Impact of natural disasters on water, sanitation and human settlements: prevention and response". Introductory presentations were made by the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Director of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat.

135. A representative of Japan, as first respondent, called for the integration of risk reduction and preparedness strategies into land use and urban planning. Ministers stressed issues such as: the special vulnerability of developing countries to natural disasters; the critical need to assist those countries in recovery and response efforts; the necessity of taking an integrated approach that addressed water needs, disaster reduction, and environmental (including ecosystems) and development issues (both economic and social); the need to strengthen local capacities for disaster preparedness; the need for financial assistance and technology transfer to establish and/or strengthen early warning systems, both national and regional; the importance of ensuring sustainable reconstruction of coastal (including fisheries) and tourism areas after a disaster occurred (for example, in the post-tsunami Indian Ocean States); and the crucial need to consider climate change in natural disaster management and reduction strategies.

Interactive dialogue with Ministers and major groups

136. Major groups and government Ministers participated in an interactive discussion on "Turning political commitments into action" during the high-level segment, on the afternoon of 21 April 2005. The discussion centred on specific policy options and actions to further the implementation of the goals and targets related to water, sanitation and human settlements, as outlined in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Millennium Development Goals.

137. The social dimension of sustainable development was a central focus for many speakers, as major groups advocated strongly for the adoption of a rights-based, people-centred, pro-poor approach to provision of services.

138. Several Ministers responded that progress towards such an approach might take place gradually, depending on States' resources, and noted national efforts in some countries to integrate rights-based perspectives in policy development. South Africa was cited as a positive example of a State that recognized the right of "water for all", with a successful model for cross-subsidized water provision. Several speakers highlighted the need for safe drinking water in relation to the HIV/AIDS pandemic and its effects on vulnerable groups.

139. Major groups and a number of Ministers agreed that legislation on secure land tenure and inheritance to guarantee the right to property for women was a prerequisite to achieving the water, sanitation and human settlements goals and targets. Several Ministers also supported recognition of indigenous peoples' equity, self-determination and human rights as a prerequisite for their full and effective

participation in the planning, development and implementation of the policies needed to meet those goals.

140. Both Ministers and major groups acknowledged that achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation targets would depend on actions taken at the local level. Democratization and decentralization were cited as necessary to meet increasing water demands. Local authorities reiterated their commitment to working with national Governments, but cautioned that, without effective decentralization and the requisite flow of technical and financial resources, meeting these targets would be difficult.

141. Farmers stressed the importance of their involvement in decision-making processes related to water, urging Governments to: balance rural agricultural and urban strategies; support farmers' willingness to conserve water by providing incentives; and create solidarity funds to support sustainable water management initiatives. Representatives of business and industry expressed their commitment to providing technical solutions through partnerships, including appropriate management strategies and technologies to increase water efficiency, particularly in agriculture.

142. Women, supported by other major groups and Ministers, called for a combination of infrastructure, behavioural change and social empowerment in achieving sustainable sanitation and meeting relevant sanitation targets. Several Ministers highlighted advancement and integration of women in the sustainable development process, and noted progress in the areas of education, literacy and health promotion.

143. Many major groups and Ministers highlighted the need for monitoring and evaluation of targets and plans. The scientific and technological communities specified the need for physical and social infrastructure development, open access to data and information, interdisciplinary knowledge for applied research, and human and institutional capacity-building.

144. Non-governmental organizations argued that trade liberalization, without removal of unfair subsidies and taxes that encouraged unsustainable technologies, was increasing inequalities and impeding sustainable development. Several major groups urged Governments to fulfil their commitment of 0.7 per cent of gross national income to ODA, and called for unconditional debt cancellation. Workers and trade unions stressed decent employment as a solution to poverty, and recommended that Governments take advantage of ILO technical assistance programmes.

145. Ministers expressed support for the inclusion of all major groups in decision-making processes at all levels. They commended major groups for their inputs to the Commission, reaffirmed the active role of major groups in the Commission process, and supported the need to reflect major groups' concerns in the negotiated outcome of the thirteenth session of the Commission. Youth representatives praised Governments for including youth in their delegations and for providing financial support to youth from developing countries to enable their participation in the meeting.

G. Partnerships Fair: highlights

146. The Partnerships Fair featured "Partnerships in practice" interactive discussion sessions, which highlighted "on-the-ground" experiences of partnership practitioners, and information desks (see annex I).

147. Participants in the Fair ranged from partnership practitioners to delegates to the current session of the Commission, including representatives of Governments, United Nations system organizations and intergovernmental organizations, major groups and other organizations. Twenty-four Commission-registered partnerships utilized the "partnerships information desks" to network, discuss their work and distribute and display informational materials related to their partnerships.

148. The "Partnerships in practice" sessions focused on a variety of topics ranging from specific partnerships in the areas of water, sanitation and human settlements, to practical issues relevant to all partnerships. These issues included mobilizing resources (both financial and non-financial) and communication and outreach.

149. Partnerships vary greatly and participants agreed that there was no single "blueprint for success". Elements of successful partnerships such as building trust among partners were identified. Other key issues included: the need for shared vision, clear roles and responsibilities, regular communication, equitable decision-making structures, complementary skills, and partners, openness to risk and willingness to accept different points of view.

150. Practitioners shared experiences about partnerships that were operational as well as lessons learned about partnerships that had been unable to move beyond the planning stage. The principal reason cited for this was the inability to mobilize sufficient resources to implement the partnership.

151. Most partnership practitioners cited their efforts to secure a sustainable resource base as both a major priority and a challenge. The importance of non-financial resources was stressed.

152. Private-sector participation in partnerships was considered important. In particular, management expertise, a bottom-line approach, developing innovative strategies, sharing appropriate technologies, exchanging best practices, and building capacity and skills through training activities were highlighted.

H. Learning Centre

153. The Learning Centre offered 15 courses during regular meetings of the Commission at its thirteenth session (see annex II for a list of courses). They afforded participants the opportunity to receive practical training and acquire hands-on knowledge so as to better implement Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation goals and targets related to water, sanitation and human settlements, as well as instruction on access to financing, education and gender issues. Course instructors employed small working groups, case studies and lecture formats, and most courses included question-and-answer periods and interactive discussions. Instructors represented a wide range of stakeholders and institutions including universities, research institutions, industry, non-governmental organizations and international institutions.

154. A total of 551 participants received training through the Learning Centre at the Commission's thirteenth session. Class size averaged 38 participants with some

courses attracting more than 50 people. A cross-section of Commission participants, including national delegates, non-governmental organizations and other institutions, as well as individual experts participating in the Commission's thirteenth session, attended.

155. Some Learning Centre courses were taped and webcast, and these courses can be found in the webcast archives of the thirteenth session of the Commission at: http://www.un.org/webcast/csd13.htm.

Chapter IV
Other matters

1. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 18th meeting, on 22 April 2005. The Commission had before it a note by the Secretary-General on the draft programme of work for the biennium 2006-2007 for the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.17/2005/CRP.1).

Action taken by the Commission

Draft programme of work for the biennium 2006-2007 for the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

2. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission decided to take note of the note by the Secretary-General on the draft programme of work for the biennium 2006-2007 for the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (E/CN.17/2005/CRP.1).

Term of the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development

3. At its 18th meeting, on 22 April, the Commission had before it a draft decision entitled "Term of the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development" (E/CN.17/2005/L.4), submitted by the Chairman.

4. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and the United States of America.

5. Also at the 18th meeting, the representative of Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) orally amended the text by replacing the words "the current term of the Commission on Sustainable Development, which is one year, should continue for its next cycle" by the words "the current term of the Bureau of the Commission on Sustainable Development should continue on the basis of a one-year term for its next cycle".

6. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft decision, as orally amended (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision I).

Dates of meetings of the Commission during its 2006/2007 cycle

7. At its 18th meeting, on 22 April, the Commission had before it a draft decision entitled "Dates of the meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development during its 2006/2007 cycle" (E/CN.17/2005/L.5), submitted by the Chairman.

8. At the same meeting, the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development orally corrected the text by replacing the words "1 March 2007" with the words "2 March 2007".

9. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft decision, as orally corrected (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision II).

Support to the Bureau in preparing for future sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development

10. At its 18th meeting, on 22 April, the Commission had before it a draft resolution entitled "Support to the Bureau in preparing for future sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development" (E/CN.17/2005/L.6), submitted by the Chairman.

11. At the same meeting, the Secretary read out a statement on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

12. Also at the 18th meeting, the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development made a statement.

13. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I).

Support for the travel of representatives from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to future sessions of the Commission

14. At its 18th meeting, on 22 April, the Commission had before it a draft resolution entitled "Support for the travel of representatives from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to future sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development" (E/CN.17/2005/L.7), submitted by the Chairman.

15. At the same meeting, the Secretary read out a statement on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

16. Also at the 18th meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II).

Chapter V

Provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Commission

1. The Commission considered item 6 of its agenda at its 18th meeting, on 22 April 2005. It had before it the draft provisional agenda for its fourteenth session (E/CN.17/2005/L.3).

2. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the provisional agenda and recommended it for adoption by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision III).

Chapter VI

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirteenth session

1. At its 18th meeting, on 22 April 2005, the Commission had before it the draft report on its thirteenth session (E/CN.17/2005/L.2).

2. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report and entrusted the Rapporteur with its completion, with a view to its submission to the Economic and Social Council.

Chapter VII
Organizational and other matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission on Sustainable Development held its thirteenth session on 30 April 2004 and from 11 to 22 April 2005. The Commission held 18 meetings (1st to 18th meetings), as well as a number of informal meetings and associated activities.

2. At the 2nd meeting, on 11 April 2005, introductory statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the representative of the United Nations Environment Programme on behalf of its Executive Director.

B. Election of officers

3. At its 1st meeting, on 30 April 2004, the Commission elected the following members of the Bureau by acclamation:

Chair:

John William **Ashe** (Antigua and Barbuda)

Vice-Chairs:

Khaled **Elbakly** (Egypt)
Dagmara **Berbalk** (Germany)

4. At its 2nd meeting, on 11 April 2005, the Commission elected the following members of the Bureau by acclamation:

Vice-Chairs:

Husniyya **Mammadova** (Azerbaijan)
Shin Boo-nam (Republic of Korea)

Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur:

Husniyya **Mammadova** (Azerbaijan)

C. Agenda and organization of work

5. At its 2nd meeting, on 11 April, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda, contained in document E/CN.17/2005/1, and approved its organization of work. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Report of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

4. Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2004/2005 (policy session):

   (a) Water;

   (b) Sanitation;

   (c) Human settlements.

5. Other matters.

6. Provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirteenth session.

6. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the accreditation of the Global Water Partnership to participate as an observer in the Commission's thirteenth session.

7. Also at its 2nd meeting, the Commission heard presentations by the following on the outcomes of intersessional events: Yoshitaka Murata (Japan) on the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Japan, in January 2005; Dumisani Shadrack Kumalo (South Africa) on the African Ministers Meeting on Housing and Urban Development, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 January to 4 February 2005; Enele Sosene Sopoaga (Tuvalu) on the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Port Louis, Mauritius, in January 2005; and Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco) on the Second International Forum on Partnerships for Sustainable Development, held in Marrakesh, Morocco, in March 2005.

8. At the same meeting, the following delegations also made opening statements: Jamaica (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China); Luxembourg (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, the candidate countries Bulgaria, Cyprus, Romania and Turkey and the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia and Montenegro) and the United States of America.

D. Attendance

9. The session was attended by representatives of 53 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for the European Community, and representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and secretariats of treaty bodies, as well as observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations, also attended. The list of participants will be issued in document E/CN.17/2005/INF/1.

E. Documentation

10. The documents before the Commission at its thirteenth session are posted on the website of the Division for Sustainable Development (www.un.org/esa/sustdev).

Annex I

Partnerships Fair

A. Participating partnerships

Capacity Building in Integrated Water Resources Management (Cap-Net)

Children's Environmental Health Indicators

Community Water Initiative

Dams and Development Project

Earth Observation Education and Training

EcoSanRes — International Network for Communications, Research and Capacity Development in Ecological Sanitation

Global Water Partnership

International Law on Sustainable Development Partnership

International Partnership for Sustainable Development in the Mountain Region (Mountain Partnership)

Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (NRG4SD)

Northern Water Network

Partners for Water and Sanitation (PAWS)

Recovery of the Circuit of Four Lakes

Shared Rivers Governance Project

Silver Ceramic Systems (activity to initiate partnership)

Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI)

Sustainable Rural Development and Ecovillage Training Program

The Seed Initiative

TIGER (earth observation for integrated water resources management)

Total Water Programme Partnership

Transfer of know-how held by Japanese local governments in the field of addressing environmental problems

Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP)

Water Programme for Africa and Arid and Water Scarce Zones

WSSD Integrated Global Observing Strategy Partnership (IGOS)

B. Partnerships in Practice

Water and sanitation partnerships: raising awareness and delivering water and sanitation services

Human settlements partnerships: developing local capacity for sustainable habitats

Mobilizing resources: financial and non-financial contributions to partnerships

Communication and outreach: fostering creative exchange of partnership information

Partnerships-related meetings: outcomes of the Marrakech Forum and other meetings

Exploring the role of the private sector in partnerships for sustainable development

Annex II

Learning Centre: list of courses

Title, instructor(s) and instructor affiliation for each course are listed in the order in which they were scheduled:

Water pricing in Australia: how to achieve water conservation objectives and sustainable use: Kate Houghton, Ross Dalton, Chris Davies and Colin Creighton, Australia Department of the Environment and Heritage

Institutional aspects of science, technology and innovation for sustainable development: Dr. Calestous Juma, Harvard University

Strengthening governance of water resources: environmental laws, enforcement and indicators: Steve Wolfson, United States-Environmental Protection Agency/International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE)

Programming for sanitation and hygiene promotion: how to do it: Merri Weinger, Henk van Norden, Vanessa Tobin, Dr. Jamie Bartram, Cecilia Martinsen, Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, Nafisa Barot and Syed Ayub Qutub, Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, Geneva

How to apply for GEF projects: Frank Pinto and Delfin Ganapin, UNDP-GEF, Cap-Net, The Institute@UNDP/Smithsonian

How to focus integrated water resources management on poverty reduction: Paul Taylor; Kees Leendertse, Cap-Net, The Institute@UNDP/Smithsonian

United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development: engaging teacher education institutions: Charles Hopkins, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/United Nations University (UNESCO/UNU); Rosalyn McKeown, UNIVERSITY TWINNING and networking scheme (UNITWIN)/UNESCO; Lorna Down, University of West Indies, Jamaica

Transboundary diagnostic analysis and strategic action programme and national IWRM planning: Martin Bloxham and Joakim Harlin, GEF-IW: LEARN (The International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network), Cap-Net, The Institute@UNDP/Smithsonian

Creating a home in the city: Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in urban centres: Dr. Elliot Sclar, Columbia University; Dr. Pietro Garau, University of Rome La Sapienza

Managing water resources through the Ramsar Convention: negotiation simulation: Peter Bridgewater (Secretary-General of the Ramsar Convention) and Sebastia Semene-Giutart and Roza Montañez, Ramsar Convention

The way forward towards sustainable wastewater management: problem identification for project formulation: Dr. Erik de Ruyter van Steveninck, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education; United Nations Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UN-DOALOS); UNEP/Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA), The Institute@UNDP/Smithsonian

Sustainable sanitation: innovative approaches for urban and peri-urban sanitation: Ingvar Andersson (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)), Arno

Roseemarin (Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)), Ron Sawyer (Sarar Transformacion SC Mexico) and Cecilia Ruben (SEI), The Institute@UNDP/Smithsonian, SIDA and SEI

Attracting private finance for water and sanitation: Larissa Dobriansky (Deputy Assistant Secretary, United States Department of Energy) and Griffin Thompson, Paul Freedman, John Wasielewski and Jacqueline Schafer, United States Agency for International Development

Sustainable development law: access to water, and water tenure systems: Dr. Marie-Claire Cordonier Segger (Director) and Dr. Anna Russell, Dr. Maya Prabhu, Sebastien Jodoin, Jaykumar Menon, Daria Hobeika and Emily Wheeler, Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL)

Women and sanitation: a growing problem: Ecosan, a sustainable solution: Tumkur Niranjan Vimala (UNICEF Project, Bangalore), Professor Dr. Petter D. Jenssen (Norwegian University of Life Sciences), Dr. Ken Gnanakan (President Acts-higher education, NGO Bangalore) and Professor Dr. Tor Axel Stenström (Head of the Division of Water and Environmental Microbiology at the Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (UMB))

Annex III

Statements made in explanation of position on the draft negotiating text adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session

Australia: "I would like to make an explanation of the vote. Obviously, there was significant misunderstanding occurring and the text that has been adopted is not quite the same as the text that was considered before. The area is a sensitive area and, accordingly, I must disassociate Australia from the language on page 9 in subparagraph 8 ter and on page 11 in subparagraph (t) ter."

Canada: "As colleagues know, Canada had joined consensus on the earlier text; Canada would like to disassociate itself from consensus on the new text given the language that now has been introduced as we're not at this point able to obtain new instructions and request our position also to be put on the record."

Luxembourg (EU): "For the sake of achieving an agreed text and under the exceptional circumstances that prevailed tonight, the European Union could go along with this way of proceeding with the understanding that this can in no way be considered precedent. I would like this also to be noted."

The delegation of **Japan** also requested that the following position be placed on record:

> "The delegation of Japan wishes to point out that the CSD-13 noted the importance of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation. The Secretary-General's Board would be expected to provide useful inputs for reinforcement of ongoing implementation efforts towards the water and sanitation targets."

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